THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) A theme paper on "Driving Growth through Special Economic Zones" was presented by KPMG and FICCI before the International Convention on Special Economic Zones held on 21-22 March, 2002 at New Delhi organized by FICCI. The suggestions made in the theme paper *inter alia* include separate Central and State level Acts on SEZ to provide a stable policy framework.

(c) The SEZ policy is under constant review and the suggestions made in the theme paper would be kept in view appropriately.

(d) Some of the modifications proposed in the SEZ scheme include treating of supplies from domestic area to SEZ as physical exports, duty free importation and procurement of goods by SEZ developers/ SEZ units and enhancement of income-tax incentives available to SEZ developers/SEZ units.

FDI proposals for Punjab

3673. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for Foreign Direct Investments in Punjab have been submitted during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and Government's decisions taken thereon; and

(c) the details of the FDIs made in the State during the last two years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) Six Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals involving an investment intent of Rs. 16.46 crore were approved during the period 1.4.2001 to 31.3.2002 for the State of Punjab. During the current financial year, no proposal for the State of Punjab has been received till date. In the last two financial years, *i.e.*, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, a total number of 15 FDI proposals involving investment intentions worth Rs. 32.35 crore were approved. The information on

investment details is posted on the SIA Website (http://www.indmin.nic.in) and also published in the monthly SIA Newsletter brought out by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, which is widely circulated to various establishments, inciuding the Parliament Library.

Trade gap

3674. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total turnover of exports and imports this year;

(b) the total value of the trade gap of imports over exports;

(c) the reasons for such a gap;

(d) what steps are being proposed to be taken to control this trade gap during the next financial year; and

(e) which areas of this trade needs more attention and the action being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) As per latest provisional data available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, value of exports, imports and trade balance during April-Feb., 2001-02 are given as under:—

(In US $ billion)

Year	Exports	Imports	Trade Balance
2001-02 (April-Feb.)	39.75	46.52	(−) 6.77

(c) to (e) The trade gap for this year is very modest compared to the trade gap of US $ (−) 5976 million in 2000-01 and US $ (−) 12848 million of 1999-2000. Global economic slow down and the events of September 11 and its aftermath have resulted in lower merchandise trade world wide including India. However, in order to arrest the